MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, AND PARKS DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT, WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES POST OFFICE BOX 451 JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT NUMBER W15 3470(I)

TO: The Honorable Delbert Hosemann

Secretary of State Post Office Box 136 Jackson, MS 39205 AND

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, at a meeting in Jackson, Mississippi on April 8, 2010, under authority of Section 25-43-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt the following wildlife management area regulations for the 2010-11 hunting year. This was done under authority of Sections 49-5-13 and 49-7-31, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered that Public Notice Number W14 3470 and Public Notice Number W8 3688 are hereby repealed, and the following 2010-11 wildlife management area hunting regulations are adopted.

2010-2011 Regulations for Upper Sardis Wildlife Management Area (Including Graham Lake Waterfowl Management Area)

Lafayette County

UPPER SARDIS PORTION

| SPECIES | OPENING DATE | CLOSING DATE | COMMENTS |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| DEER | | | For deer hunting regulations see DEER DATA COLLECTION, LEGAL BUCKS, and DOG RESTRICTIONS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS. |
| Archery | Oct. 1 | Nov. 19 | Does and legal bucks. |
| Youth Gun | Nov. 13 | Nov. 19 | Does and legal bucks. |
| Primitive Weapon | Nov. 20 | Dec. 15 | Does and legal bucks. |
| Gun | Dec. 16 | Dec. 31 | Does and legal bucks. |
| Primitive Weapon | Jan. 1 | Jan. 31 | Does and legal bucks. |
| YOUTH TURKEY | Mar. 5 | Mar. 11 | |
| TURKEY - PERMIT ONLY | Mar. 12 | Mar. 25 | See TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS in Special Instructions. |
| TURKEY | Mar. 26 | May 1 | |
| YOUTH SQUIRREL | Sep. 25 | Oct. 1 | |
| SQUIRREL | Oct. 2 | Feb. 28 | |

| RACCOON | Jul. 2 | Sep. 25 | Friday and Saturday nights. |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| RACCOON, OPOSSUM, & BOBCAT | Oct. 1 | Feb. 28 | |
| TRAPPING | Nov. 1 | Feb. 28 | |
| WATERFOWL | See Federal Re | egulations. | |
| RABBIT | Oct. 16 | Feb. 28 | |

GRAHAM LAKE PORTION

| SPECIES | OPENING DATE | CLOSING DATE | COMMENTS | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---|--|--|
| DEER | | | For deer hunting regulations see DEER DATA COLLECTION and DOG RESTRICTIONS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS. | | |
| Archery | Oct. 1 | Nov. 19 | Does and legal bucks. | | |
| Youth Gun | Nov. 13 | Dec. 31 | Does and legal bucks. | | |
| TRAPPING | Jan. 1 | Feb. 28 | See area manager for permit. | | |
| YOUTH WATERFOWL | See Federal Regulations | | | | |

NO OTHER SEASON shall be open and no other animals shall be hunted or disturbed, except hogs during archery, youth deer, and waterfowl seasons and as prescribed in "DOG RESTRICTIONS" under special instructions.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR UPPER SARDIS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (INCLUDING GRAHAM LAKE WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREA)

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT NUMBER W15 3470(I)

WMA USER PERMIT: <u>UPPER SARDIS PORTION</u> All persons participating in hunting, fishing, or trapping on this wildlife management area, except those exempt from purchasing an annual hunting or fishing license or those fishing on Puskus Lake, must carry on their person an annual statewide Wildlife Management Area User Permit. This permit is required in addition to the daily visitor use permit and any required license and may be purchased wherever licenses are sold.

GRAHAM LAKE PORTION All persons using this portion of the wildlife management area, except those exempt from purchasing an annual hunting or fishing license, must carry on their person an annual statewide Wildlife Management Area User Permit. This permit is required in addition to the daily visitor use permit and any required license and may be purchased wherever licenses are sold.

CLOSED AREA: The Graham Lake Portion of the area is closed to access beyond the public viewing area except during archery season and special youth hunt dates.

BAG LIMITS: Same as statewide bag limits.

PERMIT STATIONS: All visitors must obtain a DAILY VISITOR USE PERMIT card from a self-service permit station. Parts A and B of this permit must be legibly filled out before using the WMA. Part A of the permit must be deposited in the return box at a permit station before using the WMA. Part B must be displayed on the dash of the vehicle so that the name, address, and date are visible from outside the vehicle. Permits are invalid if not properly dated or if date has been changed. Before leaving the WMA, visitors must complete the reverse side of Part B of the permit and deposit it in the return box at a permit station. It is the responsibility of the Area Manager and other Agency personnel to have permit cards completed.

DEER DATA COLLECTION: All deer harvested must be checked at a self-service deer data collection station as denoted on the area map by the hunter who harvested them. If WMA personnel are not available to check the deer, the hunter is responsible for collecting and legibly recording ALL biological data. Instructions and equipment will be provided.

LEGAL BUCKS: Legal bucks are those with an inside spread of at least 12 inches OR one main beam length of at least 15 inches. For hunters less than 16 years of age, one of the three buck bag limit may be any buck.

DOG RESTRICTIONS: Deer hunting with dogs is prohibited. Small game hunting with dogs is allowed during any small game season. Hog hunting with dogs is allowed during daylight hours Feb. 1- Feb. 28.

TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS: Turkey season is closed on the Graham Lake tract. Turkey hunting on the Upper Sardis Portion from Mar. 12 - Mar. 25, 2011 is allowed by special permit only. You may apply online at www.mdwfp.com. Only one application will be accepted per hunter for the Upper Sardis WMA permitted turkey hunt. Hunters may apply for permitted turkey hunts on no more than 3 WMAs statewide during the Spring 2011 season. Completed applications must be received by Feb. 15, 2011 to be eligible for drawing.

LEGAL WEAPONS: Only centerfire rifles, shotguns with slugs, primitive weapons, and centerfire handguns may be used for deer hunting. Only rimfire rifles .22 caliber or smaller or any caliber of handgun may be used when hunting hogs with dogs.

OFF-ROAD MOTORIZED VEHICLES/ATVs: Off-road vehicle use will be governed by U. S. Forest Service and U. S. Army Corps of Engineers regulations. For additional information, contact the Forest Service at (662) 236-6550 or U. S. Army Corps of Engineers at (662) 563-4531. On the Graham Lake Portion off-road motorized vehicles/ATVs are allowed on designated roads or trails for hunting or fishing access only. Off-road use of ORVs/ATVs is allowed for the retrieval of harvested deer or hogs. No loaded weapon may be in possession when retrieving harvested game.

HORSES: <u>UPPER SARDIS PORTION</u> Hunting from horseback is allowed on U.S. Forest Service lands. On Corps of Engineers lands contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (662) 563-4531 for information.

GRAHAM LAKE PORTION No horses allowed.

CAMPING: <u>UPPER SARDIS PORTION</u> Camping is allowed subject to US Forest Service regulations. <u>GRAHAM LAKE PORTION</u> No camping allowed.

BEARS: Black bears may occur on this WMA. Hunting or disturbing bears is prohibited. Please report any bear sightings on your daily visitor use permit.

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 36, will be enforced. For additional information, contact the U. S. Forest Service at (662) 236-6550 or U. S. Army Corps of Engineers at (662) 563-4531.

Anyone wishing to comment on the above proposed action may do so in writing to the Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, P. O. Box 451, Jackson, MS 39205, no later than May 10, 2010.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY:

Bryan Jones, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY

Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director